

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A messaging system having integrated therewith a message notification means, said message notification means comprising:

memory means for storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

means for determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

2. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of selecting a functionality associated with a plurality of options presented to the user.

3. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 2 wherein said plurality of options is presented visually by a plurality of buttons.

4. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said messaging system is a unified messaging system.
5. (Previously Presented) A messaging system according to claim 4 further comprising a filtering means for enabling said user to select which types of messages are to be included in said list.
6. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 5 wherein said user interface is a graphical user interface and wherein different icons are displayed beside different types of messages in said list.
7. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of clearing said particular notification.
8. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of clearing all notifications in said list.
9. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 2 wherein said functionality is selected from the group of: clear item, clear all, call sender, open, open messaging application, and print.

10. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 9 wherein said open messaging application functionality launches a messaging application associated with said messaging system.
11. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 9 wherein said call sender functionality replies to the sender of the selected message notification without retrieving the message itself.
12. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said integrated message notification means may be launched from within a messaging application associated with said messaging system.
13. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said integrated message notification means is designated as a particular view within a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of enhancing a messaging system, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification application integrated with a messaging application of said messaging system;

storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

15. (Currently Amended) A message notification means for use with one or more messaging systems, said message notification means comprising:

polling means for polling said one or more messaging systems for new messages;

memory means for storing message status information for messages in said one or more messaging systems, said message status information comprising a message notification variable for each message, said variable comprising information for determining whether a notification has been cleared;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of message notifications associated with only those messages that are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

16. (Previously Presented) A message notification means according to claim 15 wherein said variable comprises information relating to date, time and sequence of each message.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of providing message notifications to a user, said user having access to one or more messaging systems, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification means for use with said one or more messaging systems;

polling said one or more messaging systems, by said message notification means, for new messages;

storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

18. (Currently Amended) A message notification means for use with one or more messaging systems, said message notification means comprising:

receiving means for receiving indications from said one or more messaging systems regarding the presence of new messages therein;

memory means for storing message status information for each message in said messaging system;

means for determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of providing message notifications to a user, said user having access to one or more messaging systems, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification means for use with said one or more messaging systems;

receiving, at a receiving means within said message notification means, indications from said one or more messaging systems regarding the presence of new messages therein;

storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

20. (Previously Presented) A message notification means according to claim 15 further comprising:

means for enabling said user to select which types of messages are to be included in the notification list.